

C.6: Respite funding

Unit: Disability Services	Effective date: January 26, 2022
Branch: Social Supports	Last updated: January 26, 2022
Policy number: C.6	Review date: January 26, 2024

Purpose

This policy describes caregivers' eligibility for respite funding for a client residing in their home. Respite funding is provided to support the wellbeing of clients by allowing caregivers to take a break from the demands of caregiving, with the goal of reducing caregiver's stress and enabling them to continue caring for their client in a healthy way.

Please note that this policy does not apply to contracted care home caregivers.

Policy

1. Full-time caregivers of Disability Services (DS) clients are eligible for respite funding. Respite for contracted care home caregivers is covered under a separate policy.
2. DS assumes that all caregivers could benefit from respite funding and makes the funding available to all caregivers who request it.
3. Caregivers are responsible to hire a respite service provider who has the required skills and qualifications to meet the care needs of the client.
4. Service providers may be a member of the client's household but not a caregiver as defined by this policy.
5. DS recommends that service providers be aged 16 or older to provide hourly daytime respite, and aged 19 or older for overnight respite.
6. Caregivers may pay for respite on an hourly, daily or other basis as suits their situation. The caregiver may set payment rates based on the skills and qualifications of the service provider, needs of the client, and community pay rate standards.
7. Respite services may be provided in or outside of the client's home.
8. Caregivers may not use respite funding for regular early childhood intervention or education programs, preschool, daycare, before/after school care or work-related childcare arrangements for clients aged 18 and under.
9. Caregivers may not use respite funding for vocational or day programming for clients aged 19 and over.
10. Caregivers shall use respite funding only for the wages of the service provider, and not for any other costs related to the respite care.
11. DS may refuse funding to caregivers receiving funding for respite services through another Government of Yukon service provider, so that services are not duplicated.

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Definitions


Client: An individual with a disability who receives services from DS.

Caregiver(s): A person or persons who are the primary caregivers of the client and who reside in the same home as the client; they may or may not have legal guardianship over the client; this definition does not include contracted care home caregivers.

Duplication of services: A term that refers to a family receiving the same service from two (or more) Government of Yukon social service providers.

Authorities

- Health Act (Yukon)
- Financial Administration Act (Yukon)

APPROVED BY:		Director, Social Supports
DATE:	2022/01/26	